

March 16, 2020

MEMORANDUM ENDORSED

VIA CM/ECF

Honorable Judge Gregory H. Woods
United States District Court
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street.
New York, New York 10007-1312

**Re: Velasquez v. Two Big Boys, Inc., et al.
Case No. 1:19-cv-11488-GHW**

Dear Judge Woods:

The undersigned represents the Plaintiff in the above-captioned case matter.

Due to the ongoing health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the tumultuous economic effects it is causing to virtually all businesses open to the public (including possible complete closures), such as the business involved in this matter, Plaintiff's undersigned counsel hereby respectfully requests that the Court grant a thirty (30) day stay of all deadlines and/or Conference in this matter.

Further, since undersigned counsel is based in Florida, an in-person Conference would require possible unsafe roundtrip travel from Florida to New York (in both of which official states of emergency has been declared). In fact, recently a passenger on a similar JetBlue flight from New York to Florida had tested positive for COVID-19. In addition, undersigned counsel suffers from an underlying asthmatic-type health condition which, potentially, would be adversely affected by the COVID-19 virus. However, in the event that the Court decides not to stay this matter, then, in the alternative, undersigned counsel respectfully requests that any future Conference be conducted telephonically, which is in accordance with SDNY's Chief Judge Coleen McMahon's recent March 13, 2020 Standing Order that "Judges are strongly encouraged to conduct court proceedings by telephone or video conferencing where practicable."

The Court may wish to note that this is undersigned counsel's first request to stay this matter. Thank you for your consideration of this unexpected, but essential, request.

Application denied. The Court has already ordered that the initial pretrial conference scheduled for March 25, 2020 take place telephonically. Dkt No. 12.

The Clerk of Court is directed to terminate the motion pending at Dkt No. 13.

SO ORDERED.

New York, NY
March 17, 2020


GREGORY H. WOODS
United States District Judge